

## ***THIS WEEK IN TEXAS HISTORY***

**February 2013 – Week 3**

**Air Date: February 17 – February 23 (Sunday – Saturday)**



### **TITLE: OLD RIP THE HORNED FROG**

FEBRUARY 1928, AND A LEGENDARY HORNED FROG IS FOUND.

THIS WEEK IN TEXAS HISTORY, BROUGHT TO YOU BY THIS STATION AND THE SAVE TEXAS HISTORY PROGRAM OF THE GENERAL LAND OFFICE.

FEBRUARY 18, 1928. EASTLAND. THE OLD COUNTY COURTHOUSE IS BEING DEMOLISHED. LEGEND HAS IT A LIVE HORNED FROG WAS PUT INTO THE CORNERSTONE 31 YEARS EARLIER, AND A CROWD HAS GATHERED TO SEE IF IT'S TRUE.

REVEREND F.E. SINGLETON REACHES INTO THE STONE BLOCK AND INDEED LIFTS OUT A FROG. AS THE CROWD CHEERS THE TOAD COMES TO LIFE.

QUICKLY NAMED OLD RIP, HE BECOMES A NATIONAL SENSATION, TOURING THE COUNTRY AND EVEN VISITING THE WHITE HOUSE.

OLD RIP DIED A YEAR LATER AND WAS PLACED IN A SATIN-LINED COFFIN. TODAY HE RESTS IN A GLASS CASE ON THE EASTLAND COURTHOUSE STEPS.

OLD RIP HAD A RUDE AWAKENING 85 YEARS AGO, THIS WEEK IN TEXAS HISTORY.

LEARN MORE AT SAVETEXASHISTORY.ORG OR CALL 800-998-4GLO.

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Art Leatherwood, "HORNED LIZARD," *Handbook of Texas Online*

(<http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/tdhyk>), accessed February 07, 2013. Published by the Texas State Historical Association.

"Old Rip the Horned Toad," *Wikipedia* ([http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ol%27\\_Rip\\_the\\_Horned\\_Toad](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ol%27_Rip_the_Horned_Toad)), accessed February 07, 2013.

TEXAS GENERAL LAND OFFICE

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